



UNIFORMED SERVICES UNIVERSITY

of the Health Sciences



Robert J. Hawkins, DNP, MBA, MS, CRNA

CDR, USN

Nurse Anesthesia Program Director at the Graduate School of Nursing

Commander Robert Hawkins is an assistant professor and director of the Nurse Anesthesia Program in the Graduate School of Nursing. As director, he oversees and manages all aspects of the TriService program.

Commander Hawkins came to USU with extensive military experience. He enlisted in the Navy in 1983 and completed their Nuclear Power Training Program before serving on two submarines – the USS Sunfish and the USS Henry L. Stimson. After these tours were complete, CDR Hawkins was selected for the Medical Enlisted Commissioning Program. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the Medical University of South Carolina and commissioned into the Navy soon after.

Commander Hawkins spent four years in the intensive care ward at Charleston Naval Hospital in South Carolina before he was selected for the Navy Nurse Corps Anesthesia Program. Once his training was complete, CDR Hawkins earned a Master of Science from Georgetown University and became a certified registered nurse anesthetist. He continued his education at Rush University, earning a Doctor of Nursing Practice with an emphasis in Leadership and the Business of Healthcare.

Commander Hawkins has extensive leadership experience in the hospital setting. He was a staff nurse anesthetist at the Naval Hospital Jacksonville in Florida, the Naval Medical Center Portsmouth in Virginia and the Fleet Surgical Team Eight. Commander Hawkins also completed war-time deployments onboard the USS Wasp (LHD-1), the USS Kearsarge (LHD-3), and the USU Bataan (LHD-5). Furthermore, he is an experienced instructor holding education positions as a clinical instructor, clinical site director and deputy program director.

Commander Hawkins has received many awards for his service including the Outstanding Clinical Instructor Award for the Navy Nurse Corp Anesthesia Program at Portsmouth on three separate occasions. Additionally, he is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, editor for the International Student Journal of Nurse Anesthesia and a grant reviewer for the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists Foundation.

Presently, CDR Hawkins is pursuing a Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing from Rush University and completing research in patient satisfaction and instrument development.